

XLI.—*Description of a new Species of the Genus Empidonax from Guatemala.* By ROBERT RIDGWAY, Curator Department of Birds, United States National Museum.

EMPIDONAX SALVINI, sp. nov.

*Sp. Char.*—Similar to *E. bairdi*, Scater, but much brighter-coloured, the upper parts olive-green instead of olive-brown, the lower parts brighter and clearer yellow, shaded across breast and along sides with olive-green instead of brownish; wing-bands light greenish olive instead of ochreous brown, and under wing-coverts pale greenish yellow (almost sulphur-yellow) instead of deep brownish ochre.

*Young male* (type No. 84053, U. S. Nat. Mus., Calderas, Volcan de Fuego, Guatemala, Oct. 10, 1873, O. Salvin). Above uniform bright olive-green; wings and tail dusky, the former with two distinct bands (across tips of middle and greater coverts) of pale ochraceous or buff; remiges and rectrices edged with light greenish olive, the secondaries, however, with the basal portion uniform dusky. Lower parts yellowish olive, paler and greyer on throat, and becoming clear pale dull sulphur-yellow on abdomen, flanks, and under tail-coverts; axillaries and under wing-coverts yellowish white, tinged with sulphur-yellow, the edge of the wing much deeper yellowish, with a buffy tinge. A very distinct orbital ring of paler yellowish. Upper mandible black, lower entirely whitish (yellowish in life?). Feet brownish. Wing 2·75, tail 2·50, culmen ·60, width of bill at base ·29, tarsus ·70, middle toe ·37.

*Adult male* (Mus. P. L. Scater; same locality, &c.). Similar to the young, as described above, but wing-bands greenish olive instead of buffy, and yellow of lower parts rather brighter. Wing 2·90, tail 2·65, culmen ·62, width of bill at base ·25–·28, tarsus ·68, middle toe ·38.

This form is almost exactly intermediate between *E. bairdi*, Sc., of Southern Mexico, and *E. flavescens*, Lawr., of Costa Rica—so much so, in fact, that it is not easy to decide as to which it is most nearly related. In the colour of the upper parts it is more like the latter than the former, and the

colour of the wing-bands is almost exactly the same. The yellow of the lower parts, however, is not quite so deep, the breast is a decidedly more greenish olive, and the under-wing-coverts much paler yellow.

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XLII.—On *Empidochanes fuscatus* (Max.) and *Empidonax brunneus*, Ridgw. By ROBERT RIDGWAY.

EMPIDONAX BRUNNEUS was first described in the 'History of North-American Birds,' vol. ii. (1874), p. 363, and was based on a specimen collected by Captain T. J. Page, U.S.N., during his exploration of the Paraná in 1850. In addition to the type (No. 20970, U. S. Nat. Mus., orig. no. 54, Paraná, March 1850), the collection of the United States National Museum contains another specimen (No. 23984), but the exact locality of the latter is unknown.

It has usually been considered (although I cannot find that such an opinion has been published) that *Empidonax brunneus* was merely *Empidochanes fuscatus* (Max.), re-described; but that this is not the case I am now able to demonstrate, having had the opportunity, through the courtesy of the Trustees of the American Museum of Natural History in New York city, of examining the types of *Muscipeta fuscata*, Max. (still existing in the Maximilian collection, for some years the property of that Institution), and of comparing them with the two specimens of *Empidonax brunneus*.

The differences between the two birds are very marked, involving, as they do, not merely the specific but also the generic characters. In coloration they present a rather close superficial resemblance to one another; but *E. brunneus* has the under mandible wholly light-coloured, the upper parts decidedly more olivaceous, and the wing-bands paler and less ochraceous.

The genus *Empidochanes* differs from *Empidonax* mainly in the much less depressed and relatively longer and narrower bill, longer and decidedly rounded tail, and stouter feet. All these characters are shared about equally by the three very